## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 9-17 and 19-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 19 and 20 were canceled; claims 9 and 10 were amended; and claims 21-23 were added. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Applicants do not concede that the subject matter encompassed by the earlier presented claims is not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Applicants amended claims in this response solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicants traverse all rejections and respectfully reserve the right to pursue the earlier-presented claims, and additional claims, in one or more continuation applications.

Support for the amendments and the new claims may be found in at least the following portions of the specification: [0025], [0149], [0150], [0151], [0159], [0160], [0161], [0162], [0165], [0166], Fig. 7, Fig. 9, and Fig. 10.

### I. 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as not being described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors, at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. Claims 19 and 20 have been cancelled, thereby making the rejection moot. Therefore, Applicants request the rejection of claims 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

### II. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which applicants regard as the invention. Claims 19 and 20 have been cancelled, thereby making the rejection moot. Therefore, Applicants request the rejection of claims 19 and 20 be withdrawn.

## III. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The Examiner has rejected claims 9-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Isomichi, U.S. Patent No. 6,938,171 (hereinafter "Isomichi") in view of Vogt, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0037292 (hereinafter "Vogt"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In rejecting claim 9, as presented prior to this amendment, the Examiner states:

> Regarding Claim 9, Isomichi teaches is drawn to computer equipment relaying transmission of an HTTP request and return of an HTTP response between a terminal and a server; comprising: HTTP request transfer means for relaying the HTTP response with a cookie sent from a browser of the terminal to transfer the HTTP request with said cookie to the server as a destination of the HTTP request (Isomichi's system relays requests and responses between a terminal and a server, including set-cookie information); and HTTP response transfer means for receiving the HTTP response returned from the server in response to the HTTP request, deleting a domain described in a Set-Cookie header, rearranging components of said domain into an inverse order,
>
> embedding said rearranged components into a path described in said Set-Cookie header, and transferring the HTTP response with said Set-Cookie header to the terminal (Isomichi's system removes the domain field, rearranges it, and places it in the path field of the set-cookie header before sending the response back to the terminal, as can be seen in Figure 10). Isomichi does not teach wherein by a punctuation character, and wherein rearranging the plurality of components of said domain in the inverse order includes exchanging positions of a first and last component of the plurality of components of said domain.
>
> Isomichi and Vogut are analogous art because they are from the same field of endeavor network security.
>
> Vogut teaches teach wherein by a punctuation character, and wherein rearranging the plurality of components of said domain in the inverse order includes exchanging positions of a first and last component of the plurality of components of said domain. (Vogut discloses for example, if the domain specifier for a cookie is ".netzero.net", the equivalent path specifier would be the reversed version (again, replacing periods with slashes) which would be "/ten/orezten/". The domain specifier for the cookie can then be removed. Since the path specifier for the cookie now contains the original domain information, the original path information is prepended to the cookie value and terminated with a " " separator. For example, if the cookie value is "data " and the path is "/images ", the new cookie value would be "/images data ". ; Page 4 Paragraph 48)
>
> It would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify a HTTP request and return of an HTTP response between a terminal and a server to include a cookie with a path specifier which is a domain specifier reversed. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to make this modification in order to have a domain specifier reversed and replaced in the cookie because it allows for cookies to be returned to and accepted by the client's browser. This allows for different components of the proxy server to be located at different physical locations. The advantage is that special software Is not required to be installed on either the client (user) or

> merchant end of a transaction. As such, spenders and funders are not required to install any software on their personal computers in addition to a typical browser,. Also, the online merchants are not required to install any special server software or modify their web pages in order to accommodate the surrogate transactions; page 2 paragraph 21. . .
>
> Therefore, it would be obvious to combine Vogut and Isomichi for HTTP response and reverse domain specifier as taught in claim 9.

Final Office Action dated January 23, 2009, pp. 5-11.

Amended claim 9 recites as follows:

> 9. Computer equipment relaying transmission of an HTTP request and return of an HTTP response between a terminal and a server; comprising:
>
> HTTP request transfer means for relaying the HTTP request with a cookie sent from a browser of the terminal to transfer the HTTP request with said cookie to the server as a destination of the HTTP request; and
>
> HTTP response transfer means for receiving the HTTP response returned from the server in response to the HTTP request, deleting a domain described in a Set-Cookie header, rearranging a plurality of components of said domain into an inverse order, embedding the plurality of components into a path described in said Set-Cookie header, embedding a remote port on which the HTTP response was received into the path described in said Set-Cookie header, and transferring the HTTP response with said Set-Cookie header to the terminal, wherein the plurality of components of said domain are separated by a punctuation character, and wherein rearranging the plurality of components of said domain in the inverse order includes exchanging positions of a first and last component of the plurality of components of said domain.

The Examiner bears the burden of establishing a *prima facie* case of obviousness based on prior art when rejecting claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103. *In re Fritch*, 972 F.2d 1260, 23 U.S.P.Q.2d 1780 (Fed. Cir. 1992). The prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). In determining obviousness, the scope and content of the prior art are... determined; differences between the prior art and the claims at issue are... ascertained; and the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art resolved. Against this background the obviousness or non-obviousness of the subject matter is determined. *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1 (1966). "Often, it will be necessary for a court to look to interrelated teachings of multiple patents; the effects of demands known to the design community or present in the marketplace; and the background knowledge possessed by a person having ordinary skill in the art, all in order to determine whether there was an apparent reason to combine the known elements in the fashion claimed by the patent at issue." *KSR Int'l. Co. v. Teleflex, Inc.*, No. 04-1350 (U.S. Apr. 30,

2007). "Rejections on obviousness grounds cannot be sustained by mere conclusory statements; instead, there must be some articulated reasoning with some rational underpinning to support the legal conclusion of obviousness. *Id.* (citing *In re Kahn*, 441 F.3d 977, 988 (CA Fed. 2006))."

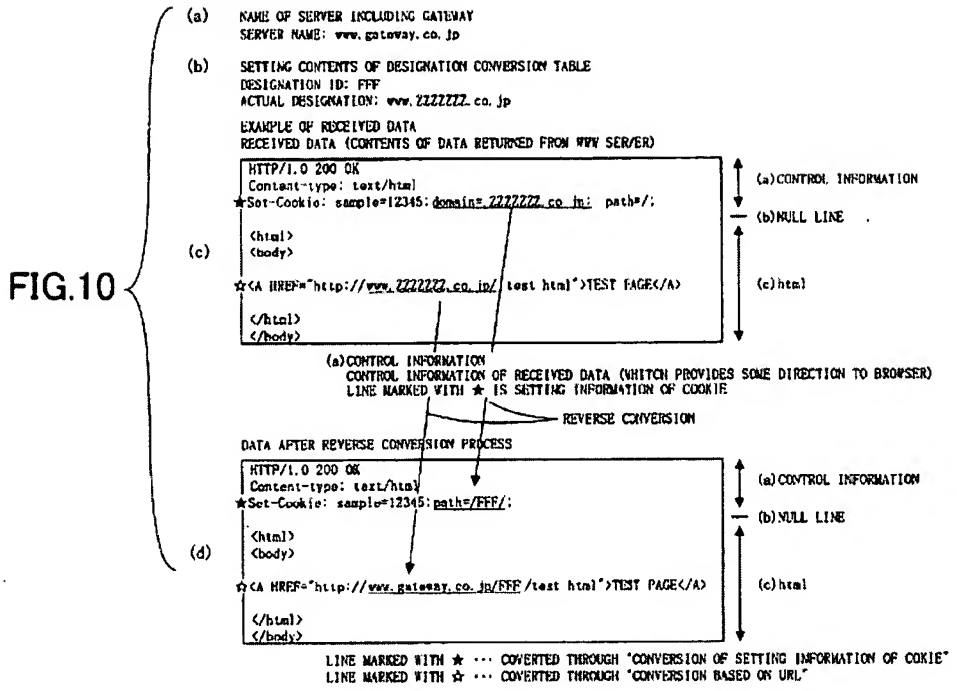
In this case, the Examiner has not stated a prima facie case of obviousness because not all the elements of the claimed invention are taught or suggested by the combination of Ismomichi and Vogt, despite the Examiner's belief to the contrary. Specifically, the cited references, alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least the amended claim 9 feature of "embedding a remote port on which the HTTP response was received into the path described in said Set-Cookie header."

**A. The cited combination of references does not teach "embedding a remote port on which the HTTP response was received into the path described in said Set-Cookie header."**

The cited combination of Isomichi and Vogt fails to teach or suggest the amended claim 9 feature of "embedding a remote port on which the HTTP response was received into the path described in said Set-Cookie header." This feature of amended claim 9 is similar to, but not the same as, subject matter recited by claim 10 as presented prior to this amendment. The Examiner rejected claim 10 as presented prior to this amendment, stating the following:

> Isomichi further teaches, "wherein said HTTP request transfer means specifies a port number of a communication port on the server together with said domain of the server, and transfers the HTTP request to the server." (Isomichi discloses the specification of a port on a server is inherent in TCP/IP communications when transferring data to or from a server.)

Amended claim 9 is not the same as the inherent specification of a port on a server in TCP/IP communications when transferring data to or from a server, as alleged by the Examiner, at least because amended claim 9 recites "*embedding a remote port* on which the HTTP response was received *into the path described in said Set-Cookie header.*" Isomichi teaches the following:




Isomichi, Fig. 5.

Isomichi is directed generally to a gateway that transmits and receives HTTP requests and responses. The gateway taught by Isomichi provides a capability for client browsers to communicate with multiple different Web servers that require different authentications, while only requiring one authentication from the client browser to the gateway. The gateway in Isomichi modifies data in HTTP requests and responses being passed through the gateway by reading and writing codes, known as designation IDs, that correspond to the various Web servers known to the gateway.

In the figure reproduced above, Isomichi teaches that the gateway can maintain invisibility of the underlying Web servers to the client browser by modifying the Set-Cookie header and link addresses of HTTP requests and responses passed through the gateway to include the designation ID of the underlying Web server. The figure above teaches that the Set-Cookie header of the response shown in (c) above is modified at the gateway by removing the domain parameter and inserting the designation ID into the path parameter that corresponds to the underlying domain. However, as can be seen in (d), Isomichi does not teach support for non-standard remote ports for the underlying Web servers. Isomichi does not teach or suggest

"embedding a remote port on which the HTTP response was received into the path described in said Set-Cookie header."

Vogt fails to make up for the deficiencies of Isomichi in teaching or suggesting "embedding a remote port on which the HTTP response was received into the path described in said Set-Cookie header," and the Examiner does not allege otherwise. Vogt is directed generally to a proxy server for the transparent control of electronic commerce transactions is provided through which an individual without a credit card is enabled to shop at online merchant sites. Vogt teaches modifying the domain parameter and inserting it into the path header, but is silent to "embedding a remote port on which the HTTP response was received into the path described in said Set-Cookie header."

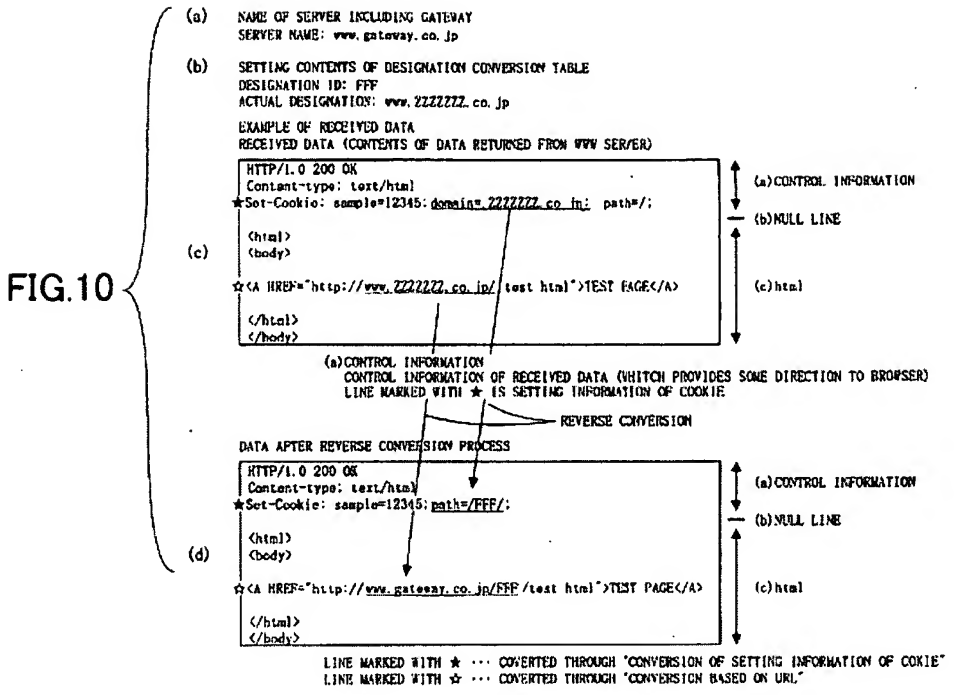
Because neither of the cited references teach nor suggest all of the features of amended claim 9, the combination of the cited references cannot make amended claim 9 obvious. Therefore, the rejection of amended claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

## IV. New Claims 21-23

Applicants have added claims 21-23 in the present amendment. Claim 21 recites as follows:

> 21. The computer equipment according to claim 9, wherein the punctuation character is a first punctuation character, and further comprising:
>
> identifying a top level domain name component in the plurality of component of the plurality of components of the domain name and a second level domain name component in the plurality of components of the domain name;
>
> joining the top level domain name component and the second level domain name component with a second punctuation character.

Claim 21 recites both the computer equipment of independent amended claim 9 as well as additional features not found in the prior art. Neither Isomichi nor Vogt teach "identifying a top level domain name component in the plurality of component of the plurality of components of the domain name and a second level domain name component in the plurality of components of the domain name," or "joining the top level domain name component and the second level domain name component with a second punctuation character." As reproduced above, Isomichi teaches the following:




Isomichi, Fig. 10.

In the above-reproduced figure, Isomichi teaches replacing the domain parameter in the Set-Cookie header with a designation ID that is used to identify the underlying Web server in a future HTTP request from the client browser. This is not the same as "identifying a top level domain name component in the plurality of component of the plurality of components of the domain name and a second level domain name component in the plurality of components of the domain name," and "joining the top level domain name component and the second level domain name component with a second punctuation character" because Isomichi does not differentiate between top-level domain components and second-level domain components.

Additionally, Vogt fails to teach or suggest the features of claim 21. Vogt teaches the following:

> [0047] It is well know that a cookie may be passed within a header. For such "Set-cookie" headers, the proxy server 110 may modify the "domain" portion of the cookie if it exists. The third manner of modification, just described, provides an effective way to manage cookies that are passed between the browser 123 and the remote server 140. When cookies are passed from the remote server 140 to the browser 123, they contain an optional domain name and path specification. The browser 123 uses these values to determine whether or not to send the cookies back to the remote server 110 on subsequent requests. Since the

> remote server 110 is proxied by the (single) surrogate server hostname (e.g., proxy.rocketcash.com), the hostname information in the cookie cannot be used. However, since the hostname information for the remote server 140 is specified as the initial segments of the URL path, the browser 123 can emulate the hostname functionality by writing the hostname information into the path specifier for the cookie.
>
> [0048] For example, if the domain specifier for a cookie is ".netzero.net", the equivalent path specifier would be the reversed version (again, replacing periods with slashes) which would be "/ten/orezten/". The domain specifier for the cookie can then be removed. Since the path specifier for the cookie now contains the original domain information, the original path information is prepended to the cookie value and terminated with a " " separator. For example, if the cookie value is "data" and the path is "/images", the new cookie value would be "/images data".
>
> [0049] Using this technique, the browser 123 sends cookies that are appropriate for the current remote domain, but this may include cookies that would otherwise not have been sent if the original path did not match the URL path. As cookies are sent from the browser 123 back to the remote server 140, the proxy server 110 removes the original path information from the cookie value and compares that path with the path of the current URL. If the path from the cookie matches the initial path of the current URL, the cookie is forwarded to the remote server 140, otherwise it is removed from the HTTP header.

Vogt, [0047]-[0049].

In the portion of Vogt reproduced above, Vogt teaches that the path parameter of a set-cookie header may be modified to include the original domain parameter by reversing the letters of the domain parameter and replacing the periods with slashes. This is not the same as "identifying a top level domain name component in the plurality of component of the plurality of components of the domain name and a second level domain name component in the plurality of components of the domain name," and "joining the top level domain name component and the second level domain name component with a second punctuation character" because, much like Isomichi, Vogt makes no differentiation between top-level domain components and second-level domain components. Vogt does not treat the two differently than another portion of the domain parameter.

Because the features of claim 21 are not taught by either Isomichi or Vogt, the combination cited by the Examiner cannot make claim 21 obvious. Additionally, claims 22 and 23 add additional features patentable over the cited art. Applicant believes claims 21-23 are in condition for allowance.

## V. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited references and is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

DATE: April 15, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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